NEWSLETTER NUMBER 1

Looking for a name for our "new" newsletter, we settled on simply calling ourselves FRIENDS. Although our name certainly isn't original, we hope to live up to everything that the word Friend means. We're proud to be a part of NYLA and we're hard at work supporting our libraries.

We're taking this opportunity to introduce ourselves to our fellow members. Our first elected President is Charlotte O'Dea. Charlotte is the Executive Director of the Chenango County United Way, Norwich, N.Y. She founded the Friends of the Olean Public Library in 1981 and has been active in promoting the Friends of the Library. In 1986, she presented a Friends' workshop at NYLA. Charlotte helped to establish the Friends of the Guernsey Memorial Library in Norwich and serves on the Board of Directors. A graduate of St. Bonaventure with a degree in journalism, Charlotte served as adjunct professor of journalism at St. Bonaventure from 1978 to 1990. She is a Director of the Chenango Memorial Hospital and a member of Norwich Rotary. We are very pleased to have her as our first President.

Geoffrey Meek is our Vice President/President Elect. Another tireless supporter of Library Friends, Geoffrey's parents founded the library of New City, New York. A ceramic designer and architectural sculptor, he studied at Syracuse University and graduated from Hunter College. Geoffrey was a faculty member at Parson's School of Design and The New School for Social Research. He is Vice-President of the Friends of the Thrall Library.

Nancy Linge McRae is our Secretary/Treasurer. A graduate of Skidmore College, Nancy is a trustee of the Saratoga Springs Public Library and the President of the Friends of the Library and a charter member of the Friends of the Lucy Skidmore Scribner Library. Nancy serves as Director of the Friends of the Polsom Library at Rensselear Polytechnical Institute. Nancy lives in Saratoga Springs with her husband and 8-year-old daughter.

Phyllis Pittman, a Director of our Roundtable, attended Nazareth Academy and the University of Rochester. A Literacy Volunteer, Phyllis serves on the Board of the Gates Public Library, as well as the Board of the Library Friends. Among her other strong interests are environmental and children's issues.

James L. Holley, is Director of the Vestal Public Library. He initiated the new Friends of the Vestal Library in 1986 and has been a member of NYLA, PLS, and PLDA. He now serves as the Newsletter Editor for this Roundtable.

FRIENDS MAILING

We want to expand our network of Friends and share our concerns and interests with all of the Library Friends groups in New York State. We'll place your library on our mailing list. In addition, send us a copy of your Newsletters, your letters to the Editor, and issues which you would like to share with the members to:

James L. Holley, Director
Vestal Public Library
320 Vestal Parkway East
Vestal, New York
13850

607-754-4243
Fax: 607-754-7936
FOLUSA CONFERENCE

Charlotte O'Dea, President of the Library Friends Roundtable, will serve on a panel sponsored by the Friends of the Library USA (FOLUSA). The conference, entitled "Government-Friends-Libraries: New Alliances in the Nineties," will be held in Washington, D.C. on April 19. The event, sponsored by Lockheed Corporation, will address 150-200 representatives of Friends' groups around the country. Other library advocates, including CEO's, private sector leaders, and State Librarians will attend. Charlotte's panel will discuss "American Library Challenge: Opening the Doors to Our Future."

FRIENDS NYLA PROGRAM FOR 1993

Geoffrey Meek, Program Planning Chairman, has been busy developing our agenda for our first Friends Roundtable Workshops. It will be an exciting opportunity to work with the Ontario Library Trustees Association on two workshops planned for Saturday, Nov. 6. The first workshop will be "Library Friends Organization and Operations" and will discuss forming a Friends Group. The second workshop will be "Library Friends Objectives and Giftings," and will discuss the advantages and values of Friends Groups.

FRIENDS ROADSHOW

Library Friends of New York will come to your library and help you start a Friends group. Members of the Executive Committee will deliver a presentation consisting of slides, manuals, posters, membership cards, applications, and other aids to help libraries develop a Friends organization. The traveling workshop covers incorporation, establishing a board of directors, fundraising, and a mission statement. For more information contact President Charlotte O'Dea at 607-336-8252.